

The Hong Kong Daily Press.

No 4516 號六百五十四

日四念月三年申壬治同

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, 1ST MAY, 1872.

三拜禮 五一英 港香

PRICE \$2 PER MONTH

Arrivals.

April 30, LORRA, North Ger. 3 m. sch. 244.
Scherlob, Saigon 8th April and Capes.
St. James 10th, 6,000 piculs Rice—Ld.
SCHILLER & CO.

April 30, CONTEST, Brit. br., 485, Jameston
Sunderland eth. Coals—P. &
O. Co.

April 30, YOT-TUNG, Brit. str., 323, Long
Swatow 29th April, General—Kwoh
A-CHENG.

April 30, CONGRESS, Amer. ship, 300, Puring
ton, Newcastle, N.S.W., 6th February,
Coals—P. M. S. S. Co.

April 30, ACANTH, Brit. str., 553, Young
Swatow 30th April, General—OLY
PHANT & CO.

Departures.

April 30, GORDON CASTLE, str., for Shang
hai.

April 30, JAS. HANNELL, for Iloilo.

Clearances.

AT THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE,
APRIL 30TH.

None.

Passengers.

Per ACANTH, str., from Swatow—
Chinese.

Per CONGRESS, from Newcastle, &c.,—
30 Chinese.

Per YOT-TUNG, str., from Swatow—
21 Chinese.

Reports.

The North German 3-masted schooner *Lentus*
reports left Saigon on 8th April, and Cape St.
James on the 10th, experienced fine weather
and light winds throughout the passage.

The British steamer *Yot-Tung* reports left
Swatow on 29th April, had moderate breeze
from the S.W., bright, and smooth water.
The steamer *Douglas* arrived on the 29th, and
left same day. The American steamer *Ping-ya*
arrived at noon of the 29th from Shanghai.
The steamers *Bombay* and *Acantha* were in
Swatow.

The British steamer *Acantha* reports left
Swatow on 30th April at 3 a.m., and arrived in
Hongkong harbour at 11 p.m., had fine weather
throughout.

The American ship *Congress* reports left
Newcastle, N.S.W., on 28th February, had the
first part of the passage calm and light winds;
after which a gale from the S.E. lasting four days,
from the 16th to the 20th, after that light for 24
hours, then another gale for two days from the
N.W. with a high sea, washing away buoys and
hatches, then a calm, and another gale on the
evening of the 21st March in longitude 165° E. light
winds still continued for two days, then got the
N.E. trade, blowing fresh; carried them to 14
N., after which calms and light winds to arrival.

The British bark *Contest* reports left
Swatow on 29th April, had moderate breeze
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N., after which calms and light winds to arrival.

The British bark *Contest* reports left
Swatow on 29th April, cleared the Channel on
the 15th December; crossed the Equator on
January 11th in 24° W., had S.E. trades and
variable winds to the Cape of Good
Hope, crossing the meridian of the 41°
February, ran down the Easting by 43°
and 44°, then turned S.E. and S.W. to the
Sunda Straits on 23rd, had light winds
from Antic to the Ira, and a strong Southerly
current of one and a half knots per hour; had
fresh winds from thence to Cape St. James;
and from thence light S.E. winds and fine weather.
Sailed on March 21st, in 44.3°, long.
106° 32' E., British bark *H. B. D.*, standing
South; March 25th, in 35.2° S., long. 116.52°
E., British bark *Leopold*, Livermore to
Swatow; April 1st, in 44.8° S., long. 107.28° E.,
ship *Cleopatra*, Fowey to New York; April 20th,
in lat. 8.36 N., long. 107.34 N., German ship
showing first Pennant, 6,519, and standing to
the Eastward.

Vessels from Ports in China and Japan
expected in Europe and America
(Corrected to Date)

FROM HONGKONG. Date leaving
Hohenholz, Jan. 10.

FROM WHAMPoa. New York, Dec. 27.

Johann Carl, London, Jan. 1.

Ringleader, New York, Jan. 8.

Puritan, New York, Jan. 26.

Cathay, London, Jan. 27.

Elle Monroe, New York, Jan. 27.

Cid, London, Feb. 5.

Agra, New York, Feb. 16.

FROM AMoy. New York, Dec. 22.

Clementia, New York, Jan. 8.

From Foochow, New York, Feb. 2.

FROM SHANGHAI. New York, Jan. 4.

Albert Victor, London, Jan. 6.

Hampton Court, New York, Jan. 9.

Chusan, New York, Jan. 25.

Ocean, London, Feb. 7.

Dilipundur, New York, Feb. 13.

Ethiopian, New York, Feb. 27.

Neville, London, Feb. 1.

FROM HONGKONG. Date leaving
Hohenholz, Jan. 10.

Commercial, New York, Dec. 27.

AND REFRESHMENT ROOMS,
QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,
Tues. from 1 o'clock to 2.30 p.m.

J. R. WHITE.

ff 650 Hongkong, 8th April, 1872.

A. S. H. B. Y. S. A. L. E.

ff 718 Hongkong, 19th April, 1872.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

ff 621 Hongkong, 1st April, 1872.

COMMERCIAL BILLIARD
AND

REFRESHMENT ROOMS,
QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,
Tues. from 1 o'clock to 2.30 p.m.

J. R. WHITE.

ff 650 Hongkong, 8th April, 1872.

125 BOTTLES OF VERY GOOD
BREAKFAST CLARET,
(Red Seal).

Selected by the undersigned, may be had for
\$24.

G. DUBOST & CO.

ff 558 Hongkong, 25th March, 1872.

THE HONGKONG PHOTOGRAPHIC
ROOMS.
(Corner of Wellington and Jardine Streets.)

ABOVE NOW OPEN.

From 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

PORTRAITS TAKEN WITHOUT
REGARD TO WEATHER.

N.B.—The Photographic Rooms are over
the Daily Advertiser Office.

E. RUSSELDT.

ff 738 Hongkong, 22nd April, 1872.

FOR SALE.

CHOICE CAVITE OMELETS AND
CIGARS.

H. COHEN.

Bud's Lane.

ff 368 Hongkong, 23rd February, 1872.

Banks.

THE BANK OF CHINA.
CAPITAL—Rs. 2,500,000, in 25,000
Shares of Rs. 100 each.

ff 25 per Share payable on account,
and the remainder in such sums and
at such times as the Directors may
determine, but so that at least three
months' notice shall be given of every
call;

WITH POWER TO INCREASE TO
Rs. 5,000,000.

PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE.

O. C. BEHN, Esq.

Messrs. W. Purson & Co.

FRANKE HORMSWEIS, Esq.

A. A. H. J. Jr., Esq.

Messrs. Franks & Horning & Co.

C. J. KING, Esq.

Messrs. Chapman, King & Co.

R. W. LITTLE, Esq.

Messrs. Little & Co.

A. M. MARYLAND, Esq.

Messrs. Thorne Brothers & Co.

D. REED, Esq.

Messrs. Reed & Co.

Standing Counsel.

H. W. M. BIRD, Esq., Barrister-at-Law.

Secretary to the Provisional Committee.

JAMES GILFILLAN, Esq.

ff 26 Hongkong, 20th November, 1871.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY, LIMITED.

ff 25 Hongkong, 1st November, 1871.

HEAD OFFICE—1, ROYAL EXCHANGE
BUILDINGS, LONDON.

BANKERS.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND, Nicholas
Lane, London, and its Branches.

Underwriter.

JOHN JOSEPH TIDDE, JOSEPH ANGUS

DURING each year it is proposed to pay
the Shareholders, Half-yearly, upon the
paid-up Capital, interest at the rate of 5 per
cent., plus premium and so on, as practicable
after the expiration of each year, a Profit
and Loss Account will be made up, showing the
results of the business, due provision being
made for all outstanding risks.

Out of the Profits will first be paid an addi
tional 5 per cent. on the paid-up Capital, making
with the interest to be paid, as explained
above, 10 per cent. to the Shareholders.

Before any further division of Profits takes
place amongst the Shareholders, the same
will be distributed amongst those Insurers out of
whose business Profits have been made during the
year.

The undersigned, having been appointed
Agents for the above Company at this Port,
Shanghai, Foochow, Hankow, and Yokohama,
are prepared to accept Marine Risks at current
rates.

GILMANS & CO., Agents.

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COMPANY, LIMITED.

ff 25 Hongkong, 1st November, 1871.

The delivery of the Daily Press from this office commences on Tuesday morning at 10.30, and the last messengers left the office at 10.25.

The Daily Press

HONGKONG, May 1st, 1872.

The grievances of the old police constable still exist, and his discontent with his position is manifested in an increasing degree daily. It is not a very wonderful thing that men should be dissatisfied with a wretched balance of \$25 and \$26 a month under any circumstances, but when the facts show that their services are really worth much more, it would indeed be wonderful if they were contented. The new constables, who have cost a large sum for their passage from England, are paid \$42 a month, though of course they are in many respects less qualified for their duties here than men who are hired to the climate, and have had some experience with Chinese and other Asiatics. If a policeman be worth \$42, as he evidently is, why, asks the old constable, are the most useful members of the Force compelled to work out their five years on \$25 or \$26. Even the West Indians, who are scarcely of any use at all, are being taken on at this same rate, and the Europeans do not feel that justice in this case accompanies "equality" in the matter of pay. The answer to the discontented constable is of course extremely simple. He has agreed to do his five years service on the \$25 or \$26 which he receives. The engagement of other men on better terms is no affair of his. May not the Government do what it wills with its own? Is the old constable's eye evil, because the Government is good? These are the obvious arguments in favour of the present unequal salaries, and to a certain extent they are good. It is undoubtedly unfair of the old constable's that the new ones get \$42. It would be no affair of his if, that sum were increased to \$60 or \$75 a month. But it is his affair very directly, that he should only have \$26, when it is proved that he is worth \$42 at least. Then why did he agree to serve for less than he is worth? Well, we know that men who at a given moment, are in urgent need of employment, do not spend much time in estimating their own value, and they may be induced under the pressure of these circumstances to do very foolish things, such as signing agreements which they regret very shortly afterwards. But after all, the constables are not the only people who have complaint against the Government. If they were, perhaps this kind of reasoning, "You have yourselves to thank," might be sufficient to close their mouths. But the Government have also to satisfy the public about the matter, because, whether rightly or wrongly, it is evident that there is, and must be, great dissatisfaction about the matter, and the public have a right to know whether there is any sufficient reason for allowing this dissatisfaction to continue. And here it is very clear that the Government have no case at all. For, in the first place, it is a condition of things which nothing but hard necessity could ever justify in a public service; and, in the second place, not only is there no such necessity, but the present rate of paying the old constables is in itself miserably low. The Captain Superintendent, or his superiors, may deem it right to insist on the adherence to a contract, but it cannot be good policy to do this at the cost of discontent, apathy in their duty, and even disaffection on the part of a large section of the police force. The Colony is not too poor to give these men equality in pay with the new arrivals. Money is spent with lavish hand on hundreds of unimportant, and many absolutely undesirable, objects, but to give our policemen the real working servants of the Government, a sufficient rate of pay, to raise them to a level with the worst paid Europeans in any other service in the Colony, is apparently looked upon as an unnecessary outlay. No European in the place, probably, who does as much work as a constable, receives less than \$75 a month, and yet because we happen to have picked up men cheap at a moment when they were hard-driven for employment, we think ourselves justified in rewarding our magnanimity with their hard service at one third of that rate. It is not the \$42 to the new constables that any one objects to. That salary is ridiculously small, altho' no one but the Government would dream of offering it to any one considered fit to be a policeman. But when we come to \$26, ridiculous is too gentle an epithet to bestow upon it. It is unjust, no matter how many agreements may have been signed. It would be unjust if there was not a man in the force receiving more, but when we are paying more for services no better, and when we are throwing salaries like small mountains at the feet of a Captain Superintendent, who doesn't know his duty, the shameful way of the best part of the Police Force becomes doubly conspicuous. The men ought either to be released from their engagements or paid at least as much as the new-comers. We have over and over again protested against the initiated policy of underpaying the police, and we earnestly trust that the new phase which this subject is now passing through may bring the matter to the attention of the authorities with a new force, and prepare the way for its final satisfactory settlement. We shall be much disappointed if the Report of the Police Commission does not say something about the low pay which the men receive, but at all events the action of the men themselves will shortly call attention to the matter, as we understand that they are about to send in their resignations once more to the Captain Superintendent, and if he refuses to accept it, that they will then proceed in a body to the Governor with a petition. Without approval of this particular course, we cannot blame the men for doing something, as their position is almost unbearable as matters now stand. We have strong hopes that Sir ARTHUR KENNEDY will see his way to some means, perhaps of tiding over the present difficulty, and to a thorough overhauling of the whole system of salary at the earliest opportunity.

The band of H. M.'s 10th Regiment will perform in the Public Gardens this afternoon at 3.15 p.m. The following is the programme:

March. Father come Home. Riviere. Selection. La Juive. Bry. Waltz. Avarice. Collette. Quadrille. La Perichole. Cotte. Gavotte. Blanche. Blise.

COURT OF SUMMARY JURISDICTION.
BEFORE THE HON. T. C. HAYLLAR,
GILBERT and others v. THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The full judgment in the above case. A summary was given yesterday.

This is an action brought to recover \$481 money received by the defendants to the use of the plaintiffs. The plaintiffs, consumers of cargo under bills of lading by the steamer *Stedman*, on a voyage from Bombay to Hongkong. The defendants are the agents for the owners of that vessel, and upon her arrival here they claimed to deliver a portion of the plaintiffs' goods, and to have a bill of lading issued to them.

The vessel sailed, and performed her voyage with a short cargo. The case was heard in the Exchange Chamber on error, from the Court of Queen's Bench, and at the time of the trial was pronounced to be fully justifiable.

The defendants were in order to recover the bills of lading, which contained the following conditions:

"He or they paying freight and all other charges as per the aforesaid charter party."

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